



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
SEATTLE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 3755
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98124-3755

RECEIVED
FEB 03 2005

JAN 28 2005

Regulatory Branch

Andy McMillan
Wetland Science and Policy Manager
Washington State Department of Ecology
Post Office Box 47775
Olympia, Washington 98504-7775

Reference: Prior Converted Croplands

Dear Mr. McMillan:

I have discussed with my staff your request as outlined in your letter dated December 2, 2003, regarding coordination on Prior Converted Croplands (PCCs) jurisdictional determinations. We agree that better communication with applicants regarding our different regulatory requirements is necessary to help alleviate potential misunderstandings. To that end, we are implementing the following changes when processing a jurisdictional determination for PCCs.

- a. As we do with jurisdictional determinations for isolated wetlands, we will contact the appropriate Ecology regional staff person before making our determination when warranted, typically due to the complexity and/or visibility of the project. We have also distributed the Focus sheet you provided to our staff so they can alert the applicants of Ecology's regulatory requirements.
- b. In addition to the steps in a. above, we are in the process of making modifications to our web site that will provide the latest available information on both isolated and PCC wetlands. We will include links to both your Focus Sheets in this modification.
- c. We have created a new jurisdictional determination letter for PCCs that informs the applicant of Ecology's regulatory requirements and encloses the Focus Sheet.
- d. A copy of the letter will be sent to the Permit Assistance Center who will distribute a copy to the appropriate Ecology contact.

If you have any concerns or questions about the steps outlined above, please contact me at (206) 764-6915.

Sincerely,

Michelle Walker
Chief, Regulatory Branch